

November 10, 2011

## South Dakota Department of the Military South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs

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# NO VETERAN DIES ALONE

The VA Black Hills Health Care System is initiating a volunteer hospice program aimed at ensuring that Veteran hospice residents are provided comforting companionship during their final days and hours. The program is modeled after the national *No One Dies Alone* program that was developed in 1988.

*No Veteran Dies Alone* (NVDA) provides the reassuring presence of a volunteer companion to patients in their final hours who would otherwise be alone.

Companion volunteers assist in providing patients with a dignified and comforted death. They must be willing to hold the hand of the patient, play music, read to the patient, and provide other comfort care measures. They may choose to provide regularly scheduled hospice coverage as well as being on call. Program volunteers do not provide nursing care, and only assist as trained compassionate companions.

All NVDA companions must first be processed in as volunteers including fingerprinting, PPD (TB) testing, as well as attend hospice education.

A special hospice/NVDA class will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2011, from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm in Building 148, Room C108 the Fort Meade VA Medical Center, 113 Comanche Road, Fort Meade, SD.

Persons interested in becoming a volunteer in the NVDA program should contact Cheryl Rieniets at the VA Black Hills Volunteer Service Program Office at 605-347-7206.



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## FALLEN HEROES BANNERS TO BE DISPLAYED AT SDNG MUSEUM

The "Fallen Heroes" banner display will be featured Nov. 28 -Dec. 22 at the South Dakota National Guard Museum (301 E. Dakota Avenue) in Pierre. Museum hours are 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday – Friday.

The banners were created in honor of South Dakota military personnel who lost their lives in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

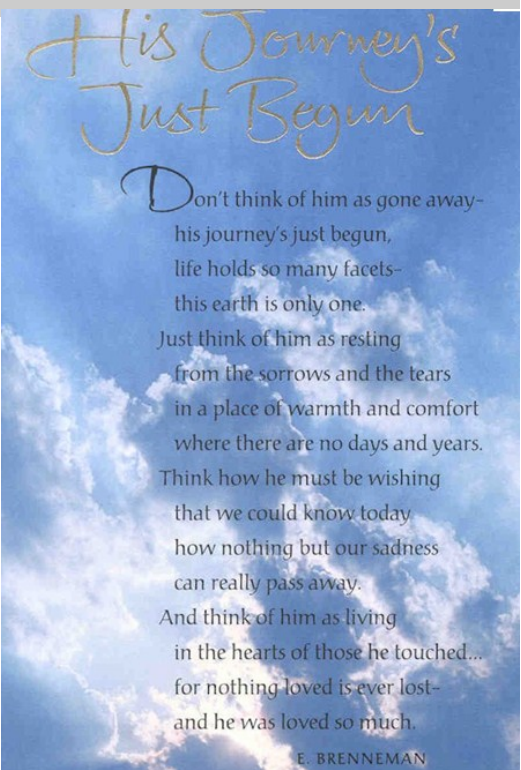
"Having the banners on display at the National Guard Museum affords visitors traveling to Pierre an opportunity to see the annual Christmas tree display at the Capitol and the Fallen Heroes Banners at the museum," said Bob Kusser, manager of the museum.

The National Guard Museum's mission is to preserve and honor the history of the South Dakota National Guard from the days of Dakota Territory (1860s) to the present day, with emphasis on the various wars and conflicts. The goal is to create a greater understanding of the significant role played by the South Dakota National Guard throughout history by caring for and preserving collections of historical documents and artifacts.



## SYMPATHIES

A memorial service for Doug Brown will be held on Friday, December 2, at 3:00 pm, in the 4th Floor Auditorium of the VA Medical Center (2501 W. 22nd Street) in Sioux Falls.



# VA DEVELOPS NEW RECRUITMENT MESSAGE

## And the award goes to... VA Employees!

An exciting evening is in your near future! On Wednesday, November 9th, VA is airing a recruitment commercial during the **2011 Country Music Awards**—and we encourage you to watch it in action. Tune in to ABC from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. to see who wins prestigious awards such as "Album of the Year" and "New Artist of the Year" while keeping an eye out for our high-profile spot.

This will be a proud moment for VA, so make sure you tell your family and friends about the big event. And since this is a great opportunity to recruit qualified candidates across the Nation, we ask that you post all of your open positions on our careers site as soon as possible.

We are also airing the commercial during the following programs from November through the 1st week of December:

- Dr. Phil (FOX)
- How I Met Your Mother (CW)
- Inside Edition (CBS)
- Live! with Regis and Kelly (ABC)
- The Doctors (CBS)
- The Wendy Williams Show (FOX)
- Who Wants To Be A Millionaire (ABC)

Check local listings for times.

If you can't wait to see the spot or share it with your family and friends—or even potential candidates—it can be viewed online at any time.

We look forward to watching recruitment at its best!

Click here to  
view all videos >



**VA**  
HEALTH  
CARE | Defining  
**EXCELLENCE**  
in the 21st Century

[VAcareers.va.gov](http://VAcareers.va.gov)

To fulfill its mission, it is essential for Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to recruit and retain skilled, dedicated, high-performing employees, as well as to develop a talented succession pipeline.

VHA's goal is to continue to build a diverse, results-driven, multi-generational workforce, especially as the current workforce at VHA consists of an increasing percentage of employees who are eligible for retirement.

The VA, in conjunction with VHA, will be airing three new recruitment messages.

This ad provides more information, also the messages can be viewed at :

[http://  
www.vacareers.va.gov/  
career-life/TV/  
the\\_faces\\_of\\_va.html](http://www.vacareers.va.gov/career-life/TV/the_faces_of_va.html)



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR VETERANS

Utilize these resources to see that tools are available to help veterans translate their military skills for the civilian workforce and to aid them in their search for jobs. More information can be found at the following links:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces/resources>

[https://www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov/home/veterans\\_job\\_bank](https://www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov/home/veterans_job_bank)

<http://www.dol.gov/vets/goldcard.html>

**MY NEXT MOVE** **FOR VETERANS** o-net in-it HOME SEARCH INDUSTRIES MILITARY

You've served your country. Now you're ready for a new challenge.

### What do you want to do for a living?

**"I want to be a ..."**

**Search careers with key words.**

Describe your dream career in a few words:

Examples: doctor, build houses

**Search**

**"I'll know it when I see it."**

**Browse careers by industry.**

There are over 900 career options for you to look at. Find yours in one of these industries:

Administration & Support Services

**Browse**

**"I liked my last job."**

**Find careers like your military job.**

Enter the name or code of your military classification. We'll suggest civilian careers with similar work.

Select a branch:

Examples: 0963, radio chief

**Find**

Want more options? Check out careers in these groups:

Bright Outlook

green

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP



Still not sure? The [O\\*NET Interest Profiler](#) suggests careers based on the type of work you enjoy doing.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

November 17—SD Veterans Council Legislator Roundtable—Aberdeen  
November 18—SD Veterans Council Legislator Roundtable—Chamberlain  
November 19—SD Veterans Council Legislator Roundtable—Piedmont  
November 22— NVDA Hospice Training—VA, Fort Meade  
November 24-25—State Offices Closed  
December 2—SD Veterans Council Legislator Roundtable—Watertown  
December 3—SD Veterans Council Legislator Roundtable—Sioux Falls  
December 10—National Wreaths Across America Remembrance  
December 26—State Offices Closed  
January 2—State Offices Closed

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